

The Connecticut
Department
of Correction



Remember Our Troops

P.R.I.D.E.

Our motto: Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Dignity, Excellence

AT WORK



Promotion and Parole Consolidation

Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz has announced a series of appointments to the agency's top management in conjunction with the on going consolidation of the Board of Parole within the Department of Correction. The Commissioner has appointed Warden Robert Gillis, as the new Director of Parole and Community Services. Director Gillis brings 33 years of experience to this new role of overseeing the community supervision functions of Parole and the Community Enforcement Unit which will be merged.



(L-R) Director Gillis, Warden Lajoie, Commissioner Lantz,
Warden Tarascio & Director Miele.

Continued on Page 3,
Promotion

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Our Mission

The Department of Correction shall protect the public, protect staff, and provide safe, secure and humane supervision of offenders with opportunities that support successful community re-integration

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From the Commissioner

I need in this edition of PRIDE at Work, to express my deep gratitude to the Connecticut Department of Correction staff, who over the past nine months, have worked so diligently and tirelessly to implement the CORE-CT system for our agency. As you are likely aware, CORE-CT, which was first introduced last July, is an effort to unify all state agencies under one standardized and streamlined computer based management system that oversees all fiscal and human resources functions. In the past, state agencies utilized their own in house methods of accomplishing these tasks which left the state without the ability to quantify and analyze the entire picture. You have seen your time cards and paychecks change as a result of the transfer to this new system.



Continued on Page 2, *Commissioner*

About and for
correctional
professionals

March 28 -
April 10,
2004

Annual Report

Take a man with more than 32 years in commercial printing, throw in the experiences of a Marine who served his country in Vietnam, add in a desire to create a product the Department can distribute with pride and you get Vocational Instructor, Robert Oliveri.

Bob has been with the Department a little less than two years. However, he has already become the "go to guy" when we need to produce materials such as the Awards Ceremonies

Booklets, Interdepartmental Notices, Announcements and the Department's Annual Report.



Continued on Page 4, *Annual*

Commissioner, Cont'd

As is the case with any undertaking of this magnitude, that seeks to alter established ways of doing business and unify a statewide system, there have been challenges and difficulties associated with the changeover. I know that some of you have experienced problems with your paychecks and I appreciate your patience as these glitches are worked out of the system. But I also want all of us within the agency to know and appreciate that some of our highly dedicated fellow staff have patiently worked for months, putting in long hours, so that our utilization of this new system will be as effective and seamless as is possible. Frankly, it has not been easy. The undertaking has fundamentally changed the manner in which we do business. Not only has payroll been part of this process, but so too have all the other fiscal functions including purchasing which in an agency our size is a multi-million dollar a month proposition. I know it is not easy letting go of the past simplicity of filling out a requisition form when a purchase has to be made. There have been, and will for some time, likely be delays in the normal speedy operations that we have grown accustomed to from our fiscal and human resource staff. Please bear with them and be understanding of what they are accomplishing. Ultimately, CORE-CT promises to be a much more efficient method of conducting business for our agency and the state as a whole. I can tell you that throughout this process, those overseeing the implementation of CORE-CT for the state as a whole have repeatedly praised our agency for the ability to accept and adapt to this program. To me, this is yet another example of why I am so proud of the staff within this agency and proud to serve the staff of this agency as Commissioner. Regardless of the challenge or adversity, the Connecticut Department of Correction will take it on and exceed the expectations. This is our record and this is why we are the best in the country. Please keep up the exemplary work and thank you for your continuing commitment to our agency.

Pride. *AT* Work

for
March 28 - April
10, 2004

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month in advance
for calendar events.

Promotion, Cont'd

“Given our renewed commitment to, “successful community reintegration”, I can think of no one better equipped to restructure this critical aspect of our agency,” said Commissioner Lantz. The Board of Parole and its decision making authority will remain autonomous under its Chairman. The consolidations will provide a continuum of custody, care, treatment and control from the first day of incarceration through a period of community supervision for appropriate offenders. Many of the day to day details of the consolidation are still to be determined. Filling Director Gillis’ position at Gates C. I. will be Warden John Tarascio. “His vast range of experience at high security facilities as well as our jails, will provide the foundation for this high profile emphasis on our discharge planning and preparation,” said the Commissioner. During his career, Warden Tarascio has been involved in managing community and reintegration services. The agency’s newest Warden, Michael Lajoie, will assume leadership at Corrigan-Radgowski C.C. “As a long time Major at the facility, who knows its people and operation, Warden Lajoie has the experience, the heart and the energy to return and assume leadership,” said Commissioner Lantz. Out of concern over the frequent changes in the Wardens position at Corrigan-Radgowski, which included her tenure which was the most lengthy at 18-months, Commissioner Lantz has pledged that Warden Lajoie will stay in place for the foreseeable future. Richard Miele will become Director of Tactical Operations and will continue to also head up the Correctional Transportation Unit, the Honor Guard and Bagpipe and Drum Band. “Director Miele is a rock in our agency and is known for the high level of integrity that will be demanded by his new position of ensuring our emergency preparedness,” said the Commissioner. In a letter to staff, the Commissioner has pledged to inform them of the additional details as the consolidation with Parole continues.

..... See revised Organizational Chart on Page 7

Connecticut Grown

Good partnerships bear fruit and vegetables and so much more. “Connecticut Comes First” encourages state agencies like the DOC to consider local farms when making their food purchases. This cuts costs to taxpayers, helps out local growers as well as providing a tasty piece of Connecticut produce to be consumed in-state.

Henry Botticello, owner of Botticello Farms recently wrote a letter of appreciation to the Department for its continued efforts in this program. He expressly mentions Director of Nutritional Services Robert Franks as having done an “excellent job working to develop” this successful program. He looks forward to continued success in reaping what we sow.



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Did you know?



Did you know is an informational column written by the Facilities Management and Engineering Unit, aimed at increasing your knowledge of issues in our everyday lives. This weeks issue is part 2 of a two part series and was submitted by Mark Rashaw, who can be reached at 860-692-7558. If you have an idea or question for a future column please contact David Batten, Acting Director at 860-692-7554.

Part 2 of 2 The following are a few suggestions as to where you should look for how to do's, fix-it and project ideas:

- Ask questions and talk with others, everyone knows someone that is either handy or has some type of trade experience (carpentry, plumbing or electrical). Word of mouth is one of the best ways to not only find out how to do something, but also to actually talk to someone about your repairs, plans, idea and projects.

Continued on Page 4, *Did You Know?*

New Supervisors Graduate

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Did you know?, Cont'd

In terms of size it was a class small in number. The numerical designation of New Supervisor Orientation Class 17 by happenstance matched the number of new Lieutenants to complete their promotional training. But as



supportive family and friends looked on, Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz made clear just how important these individuals will be to our agency. "Our Lieutenants are crucial to the successful functioning of our facilities," said Commissioner Lantz. We simply could not function without them among our supervisory ranks." Prior to the graduation, Commissioner Lantz had spent a private hour with the graduates, personally expressing her congratulations and gratitude for their acceptance of this additional rung of responsibility that they have climbed in their career ladder. Lieutenant John Cameron eloquently expressed the thoughts of his classmates as they accepted a new challenge in corrections. After a stirring rendition of the National Anthem by Counselor Supervisor Leigh Ware and her husband Malvin, badges were pinned on, either by family members or class instructors. We offer these newest Lieutenants our best wishes with their new assignments.

- Look on the Internet, there are many different websites regarding DIY subjects and it is possible that you will find step by step instructions.

- Books & trade magazines; every news stand that I've seen always has a variety of "Building" trade, Workshop, Handyman and DIY magazines that are filled with how to do ideas and designs. I've always said "A picture is worth a dozen projects." Your local library will surely have a section devoted to these subjects.

- Lumberyards & supply houses are one of the best sources of information. It's good to have someone to bounce our questions off of. These guys know their products and will point you in the right direction. Most materials are better suited for specific applications, get the right product for the right job.

- Just about every home improvement center store has classes and seminars on many various projects. Look for them and attend. A couple hours invested here will make a world of difference.

Unlike our forebearers, today we do it ourselves because we choose to, not because we have to. After all, we could afford to have someone else do it and they might do it better.....but this wouldn't be nearly as satisfying, so roll up your sleeves and go for it. Best of luck in your endeavors!

Annual, Cont'd

The 2002-2003 Annual Report was just distributed and received much praise for its style and content. This year's report has dual themes that include the acknowledgement of "35 years of excellence" in addition to a tribute to the men and women of the Department who have been called to active service. Red, White and Blue dominates the cover as well as the pages inside.

In addition to teaching inmates about computer graphics, he has also been selected to implement the Commissioner's TIE (Teaching, Instruction & Education) program at Osborn CI.

Calendar

April 21 & 22

The 8th Annual Melanie Rieger Memorial Conference is scheduled for April 21 & 22 at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development. There is a \$10 registration fee for the two-day conference (**DOC employees do not need to submit the registration fee**). Your supervisor must approve attendance. Reigstration forms are available by contacting Dr. Samuel L. Rieger at SRIEGER243@att.net or 203.756.8080.

Avodah

For the third year in a row, the Avodah Dance Ensemble returned to the York CI to conduct a workshop for inmates in the art of expressive dance. "Avodah" means "to worship" in Hebrew. About 30 inmates



participated in the program by the New York City based group which culminated in a performance for about 150 inmates who assembled in the facility's school area.

Inmates from varied backgrounds and experiences joined together with classically trained dancers to choreograph and perform an original production which included steps intended to symbolize peer support.

JoAnne Tucker, the ensemble's artistic director, has said that she was surprised at how easily some of the novice dancers caught on to the steps as well as the symbolism involved.

Condolences



Warden Cuscovitch and staff of the Willard-Cybulski CI extend their condolences to Lt. Forkey and her family on the passing of her mother, Lorraine Fleur.



Warden Cuscovitch and staff of the Willard-Cybulski CI extend their condolences to Capt. Desso and his family on the passing of his father, David Desso, Jr.



Warden Carter and staff of the MacDougall-Walker CI are saddened to announce the passing of Martha Toney, mother of C/O Sylvester Toney.



Robert Foltz and the Fiscal Services staff are saddened to announce the passing of Donald A. Laviana, brother of Robert Laviana.



Warden Carter and staff extend their condolences to the family of Correction Officer Marvin Nicholas of the MacDougall-Walker CI. C/O Nicholas was a 10 year veteran of the department prior to his passing.



Warden Cuscovitch and staff of the Willard-Cybulski CI are saddened by the passing of retired Correction Officer Carl Aldrich.

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Seeking Volunteers

Nadine Toce, Tri Chair for the 2004 Relay for Life of Cheshire, is seeking volunteer assistance from correctional staff interested in working at the annual event scheduled on June 4th and 5th. The critical time for volunteer security staff is 10:00 p.m. - 5:00 a.m. Responsibilities will include checking wrist bands, monitoring the front gate and perimeter checks. To inquire, please call Nadine Toce days at 203.787.1183 or evenings 203.271.0095.

Around the cell block



Wisconsin- A 74 year old woman was sentenced to 16 years in prison for grooming a child to have sex with an inmate upon release.



Ireland- The country's new ban on smoking in public does not apply to prison cells which are considered private residences.



Kansas- State lawmakers are concerned about a museum's plans to display the gallows used to execute the killers immortalized in the book, "In Cold Blood".



Washington- An inmate who'd escaped by scaling a fence was caught after his state issued shoes gave away his identity.

Why I Chose to Join the Best

In coming issues, PRIDE at Work will profile some of the newest members of our agency who are a part of Pre-Service Class 224. During their first week at the MCTSD, they were asked to write an essay explaining why they chose to become a member of the Department of Correction. Their reasons make clear that our PRIDE, as the best correctional agency in the country, is an ideal that others are drawn to and seek to call their own.

This week we feature Wenroy Reid of Garner CI. "Every time I would see my uncle, who has been a correctional officer at the Bridgeport CC for 11 years, or another correction officer, I would always admire them in their uniforms and their professional look. This job demands a great deal of responsibility and professionalism. The DOC stresses teamwork and that attracted me to the agency. My uncle stressed to me, once I was hired, that it is important to be fair, firm, and consistent. I joined because I always wanted a job where I can be a professional."



Cadet Wenroy Reid of Garner CI

Job Fair at Enfield CI

On 3/19/04 Enfield CI hosted the Job Information and Resource Fair, which was coordinated by Jim Taylor, Transitional Counselor, and the Enfield CI Education Department. The fair focused on giving inmates the opportunity to network with potential employers and motivate them toward thinking about their transition back into the community. Eighteen vendors were present at the Job Fair with plenty of information to cause the participating inmates to think about their future.

Keynote speakers included Michael Bivens of the DOC Affirmative Action Unit and, Myrna Nieves, from Bob's Discount Furniture. They both focused on the skills and good work ethics that are necessary in not only obtaining employment, but also keeping employment for the long term.



Michael Roeder of USD #1, Principal Ed Korza & Counselor Jim Taylor of Enfield CI

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MVP's

Alderucci, Marc	Capt	CRCC
Allen, Thomas	Lt	McWCI
Andras, Kenneth	C/O	CRCI
Baker, Marion	C/O	HCC
Barbour, Ben	C/O	CRCC
Cahill, Jason	Lt	CRCI
Cauley, Michael	CFSS	McWCI
Christie, Pamela	C/O	McWCI
Colon, Luis	C/O	NCI
Degenaro, Robyn	CC	NCI
Demers, Paul	Lt	McWCI
Desso, James	Capt	WCB
Figueroa, Evelyn	C/O	HCC
Forkey, Mary	Lt	WCI
Fusaro, Timothy	C/O	CRCC
Gallagher, Dennis	C/O	McWCI
Goodison, Errol	C/O	HCC
Golas, Steven	C/O	CRCC
Hensch, Patrick	C/O	CRCC
Hirshboeck, Mark	C/O	CRCC
Huddleston, Roshell	C/O	McWCI
Jones, Janice	C/O	HCC
Kaplan, Diane	Clk Tpst	NCI
Kelly, Jerri	CC	CRCI
Kirwin, Susan	CC	WCI
Kivela, Karen	CFSS II	CRCC
Leiper, Nancy	Clk Tpst	NCI
McEwan, Tara	CC	NCI
Meacham, Jason	C/O	CRCI
McIntosh, Timothy	Capt	CTU
Milligan, Michelle	CC	WCI
Molden, Gwendolen	C/O	HCC
Mudano, Julie	CC	CRCI
Perry, Stephen	C/O	CRCI
Porter, Harris	C/O	HCC
Rawlinitis, Jason	CFSS	McWCI
Rawlinitis, Ryan	C/O	McWCI
Santerre, Gordon	GMO	CRCC
Sizemore, Sherman	CFSS II	NCI
Smith, Lamel	C/O	HCC
St. Onge, David	C/O	CRCI
Thomas, Michael	C/O	CRCI
Thomas, Terry	C/O	HCC
Torres, Gerry	Capt	WCB
Young, Leo	C/O	CRCI

[illegible]

CCC	Correctional Center
CI	Correctional Institution
CS	Counselor Supervisor
DC	Deputy Commissioner
DIR	Director
DW	Deputy Warden
W	Warden
YI	Youth Institution

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